

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Hampden-Smith et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

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Confirmation No.: Not Yet Known

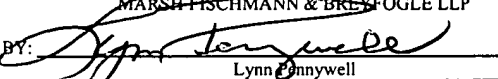
Atty. File No.: 41890-01693

For: "PALLADIUM-CONTAINING  
PARTICLES, METHOD AND APPARATUS  
OF MANUFACTURE, PALLADIUM-  
CONTAINING DEVICES MADE  
THEREFROM"

) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Known

) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

) PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NO.: EV 386650560US DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 2, 2004  I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.  MARSH FISCHMANN & BREYFOGLE LLP BY:  Lynn Pannywell
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application, Applicants request entry of the following preliminary amendment.

Amendments to the specification begin at Page 2 of this letter.

Amendments to the Claims begin at Page 3 of this letter.